

scattered so that on that portion the patch is broken and irregular. This red crown-patch is very similar to that adorning the adult male of *Centurus uropygialis*, but is rather larger, extends further forward on the crown, and is more scarlet in color. On the throat, the usual red stripe is extended posteriorly very nearly to the yellow of the abdomen; back of its usual limits, however, the red becomes gradually duller, until it finally changes to a dull brownish hue. This red throat-patch also gradually widens posteriorly to near its extremity, being at the widest part more than half an inch broad. In all other respects the plumage of the bird is quite normal. The interscapulars are largely white centrally, each feather having a conspicuous longitudinal, broad, white stripe, but these white markings are almost entirely concealed when the feathers occupy their natural position; sometimes these white markings are, however, observable in specimens having the red of normal development. The belly is rather pale for Californian examples of this species, which are usually much brighter colored beneath than those from the interior. There is, however, much variation in this respect. The measurements are as follows: wing, 5.50; tail 3.80; culmen, 1.05; tarsus, .85.—R. RIDGWAY, *Washington, D. C.*

**On an Addition to the Ornithology of South Carolina.**—Toward the close of the afternoon of Dec. 9, 1886, a small flock of over a dozen Blackbirds, accompanied by a straggling company of Meadowlarks, was noticed on a barren field in the suburbs of Chester. At the distance, they appeared to be Purple Grackles. Hoping to find an example of *caeus* among them, I went in pursuit, but, as the 'Larks' were inclined to linger behind, I had considerable difficulty in getting within shooting distance. After a time, however, I succeeded in temporarily separating them, driving the Blackbirds into a tree. Three specimens were secured, but of a kind wholly unexpected—not Bronzed, but Brewer's Blackbirds (*Scolecophagus cyanocephalus*). On the following morning two additional examples were captured, making a total of three males and two females. That these birds were waifs and strays, mere accidentals, seems improbable. Their numbers and condition (those taken were very fat), considered in connection with the demonstrated tendency of certain species of the West to extend their migrations to the South Atlantic States, appear to indicate that they were irregular migrants, borne eastward on the cold wave which struck Chester on the night of December 3, covering the ground for a week with snow.

To what extent the list of South Carolinian birds is capable of expansion can only be conjectured. The experiences of the past few years have taught us to expect almost any migratory bird inhabiting the Mississippi Valley. If we are ever to arrive at a 'Complete Catalogue,' if such a thing be attainable, it will only be through persistent use of the gun, and by careful and systematic examination of many specimens of every species having a western sub-specific representative.—LEVERETT M. LOOMIS, *Chester, S. C.*